

**Minutes of the  
NOAA MSI Council Meeting  
August 30, 2004**

In Attendance: Louisa Koch MSI Council Chair; Jacqueline Rousseau; Chantell Haskins; Linda Belton; Bonnie Ponwith; Robert Ziobro; (NOAA Fisheries); John Jones; Priti Brahma; (NOAA Weather Service); Mike Nelson (Grants Management Division); Terry McTigue; Michelle Crockett (NOAA Ocean Service); Colleen Hartman; Marie Colton: NOAA Satellite and Data Information Service; Al Corea, EEO; Stephanie Jones (Diversity Office); Theodoris Corbett; Jennifer Hammond; Gary Petrae (PPI)

- I. Attachment A contains a copy of the meeting agenda.
- II. The meeting was opened by the Council Chair Louisa Koch. A call to review and approval of the agenda was made with no objections and a call to approve the minutes of the previous meeting was made and approved.
- III. Chantell Haskins, manager of the EPP Graduate Sciences Program (GSP) discussed the status of selection of GSP candidates for the Class of 2004. At the time of the meeting only 2 offices had selected candidates. It was noted that applicants were interested in knowing if selections were made since the academic year was underway in many cases. LO representatives discussed the training process and indicated that having to maintain FTEs for the duration of the students training process was a burden to some offices and restricted full participation of potential participating offices. It was noted that the program should consider approaching the Administrator's Office to give 5 slots per year to EPP to support GSP.
- IV. Ms. Haskins also discussed the Undergraduate Scholarship Program (USP) which concluded on August 27, 2004. New student training component were added to the agenda this year and this was the largest class - with 15 students.
- V. Discussions on the future funding to the CSCs focused on the status of the grant applications currently being processed and on future funding. Discussions on the eligibility of the current centers and on the time schedule for the next competition also took place. It was noted that the next funding cycle will be for a 5 year period and will take place in FY06, subject to appropriations.
- VI. The Faculty staff exchange program was off to a slow start with some centers program fully developed and in some instances, no staff identified for the exchange opportunity. It was agreed that this initial exchange would serve as a test case to determine if this activity should be funded in the future.
- VII. The EPP PPBES budget submission was presented to the council. Meka Laster (RAP Detailee) provided an update on the program assessment and on the new program options being put forward for funding consideration. Two new components were under review, they were: Funds to support a new Cooperative Science Center and funds to support a post doctoral opportunity at each line office. There were no substantial comments on

the EPP proposals.

- VIII. Linda Belton EPP Outreach Coordinator provided an update on the program's outreach activities. At the request of staff of Congressman Serrano, EPP provided its annual briefing to Nadine Berg. Scott Gudes former NOAA Deputy Undersecretary also provided a briefing to the Undergraduate Scholarship Interns on "Congress 101" EPP Director also briefed staff of the Senate Appropriations Committee – at their request.
- IX. The EPP Office reported that the MOU's under which program support funds were being provided would be evaluated to determine if the instrument was still effective. No objections were put forward from members in attendance.
- X. A draft of the agenda for the EPP Education and Research Forum scheduled for October 21 – 23, 2004 at CREST in New York was provided to council members. Discussion on the various participants from other agencies and from the private sector was noted. NOAA –wide participation was encouraged. The Council Chair asked whether this forum would take the place of the Expanding Opportunities Conference. It was decided that it would not, but that the matter would be revisited at the next council meeting.
- XI. The meeting adjourned at noon.